

# EMPIRE OF THE DINOMIERS

9

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GENERAL READERS



Steve Fisher

Fisher!

"HER NAME IS KYRA. SHE IS A SUNRUNNER, A YELLOW SKINNED RACE OF REMALON WHO HAVE THE ABILITY TO BREATHE FIRE, WHOSE OUTER BEAUTY IS MATCHED BY HER INNER FLAME FOR LIFE."

"WE HAVEN'T KNOWN EACH OTHER LONG, ONLY A NIGHT, REALLY."

YET SHE'S SHOWN MUCH AFFECTION FOR ME."

"ALONG WITH SHAMUS, SHE DEFENDED ME AGAINST XENIF, BUT FELL VICTIM TO HIS RAGE. SHE TOLD ME IT WAS OUT OF LOVE AND THAT I WAS TOO IMPORTANT TO THE CONTINUATION OF OUR KIND TO BE HARMED."

"I NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO TELL HER HOW IMPORTANT SHE WAS AS WELL

BUT I FEAR HER INNER FLAME WILL SOON BE EXTINGUISHED, FOREVER."

I DIDN'T GET THE CHANCE TO DEFEND HER..."

"BUT I WILL AVENGE  
HER DEATH!"

# FORBIDDEN LOVE

## PART 4

XENIF!  
MURDERER!



ART AND STORY: SHAWNTAE HOWARD  
INKS: STEVEN R. ADDLESEE.  
LETTERS: CHARLES GRAY

THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO THE  
MEMORY OF FELTON 'POPPA FELT'  
TAYLOR.

RRRAAAGH!



YOU MONSTER!  
YOU TOOK HER  
LIFE WITHOUT A  
MOMENTS  
HESITATION!



WE SOUGHT  
TO WARN YOU!  
YET YOU  
ATTACKED US!

ALL SHE WANTED  
TO DO WAS PROTECT  
ME, TO BE LOVED AND  
YOU TOOK HER LIFE,  
NEVER TO BE  
RETURNED!  
SHE'S GONE  
FOREVER!  
HER RACE  
IS GONE  
FOREVER!!

THEN SHE SHOULDN'T  
HAVE GOTTEN IN MY  
WAY!

AND YOU SHOULDN'T  
HAVE TRIED TO STAND  
BETWEEN MY BELOVED  
AND I.

JUST AS YOU  
ARE...

NOW!



BUT NO LONGER.

I WILL PUT AN END TO YOU  
AND YOUR ANNOYING  
INTERVENTIONS NOW,  
ONCE AND FOR ALL!

XENIF, PLEASE!

THIS IS CRAZY!

YOU HAVE ME, LET  
THEM GO! NO MORE  
BLOODSHED!

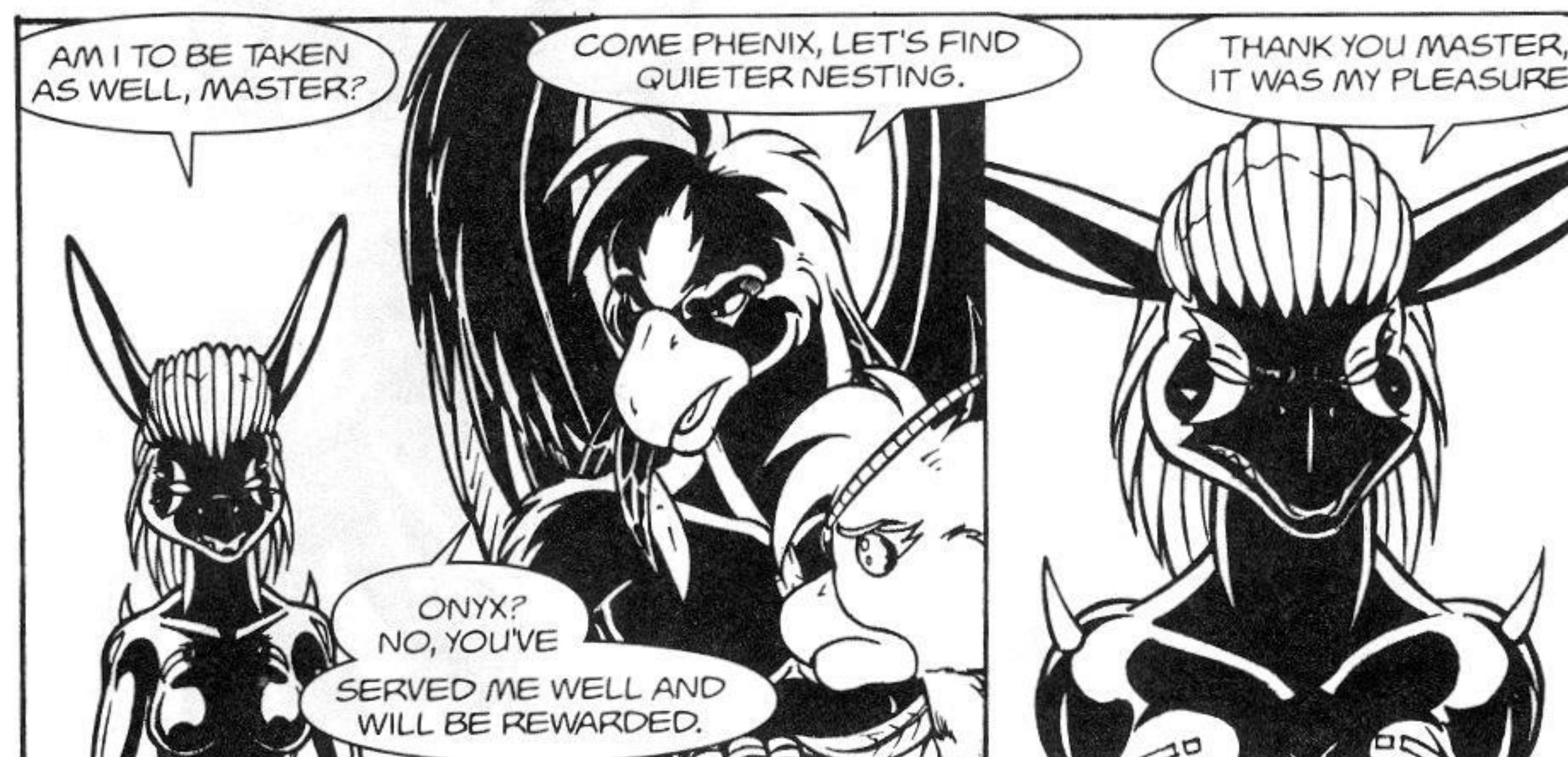
NO! KYRA  
WILL BE  
AVENGED!

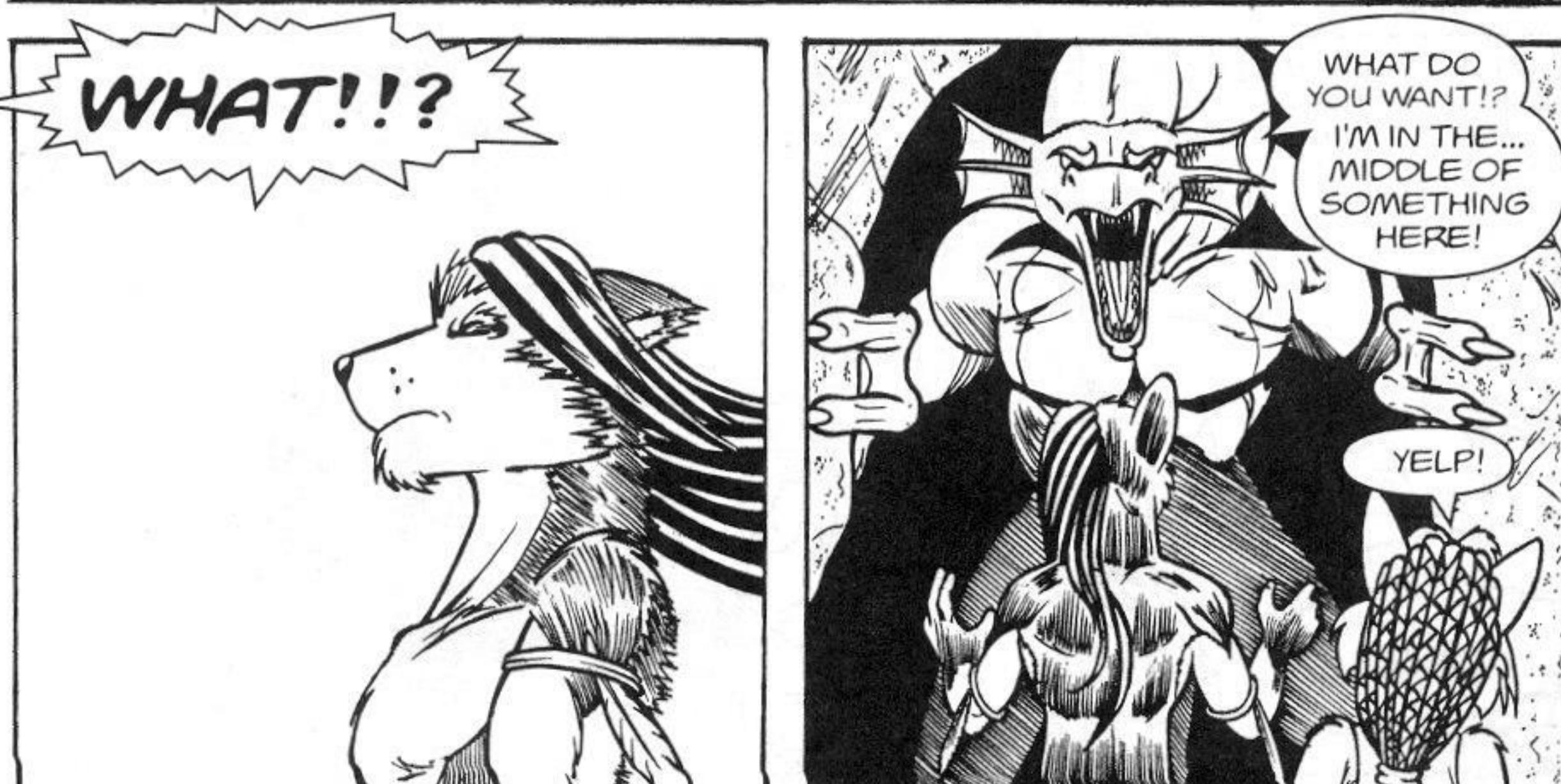
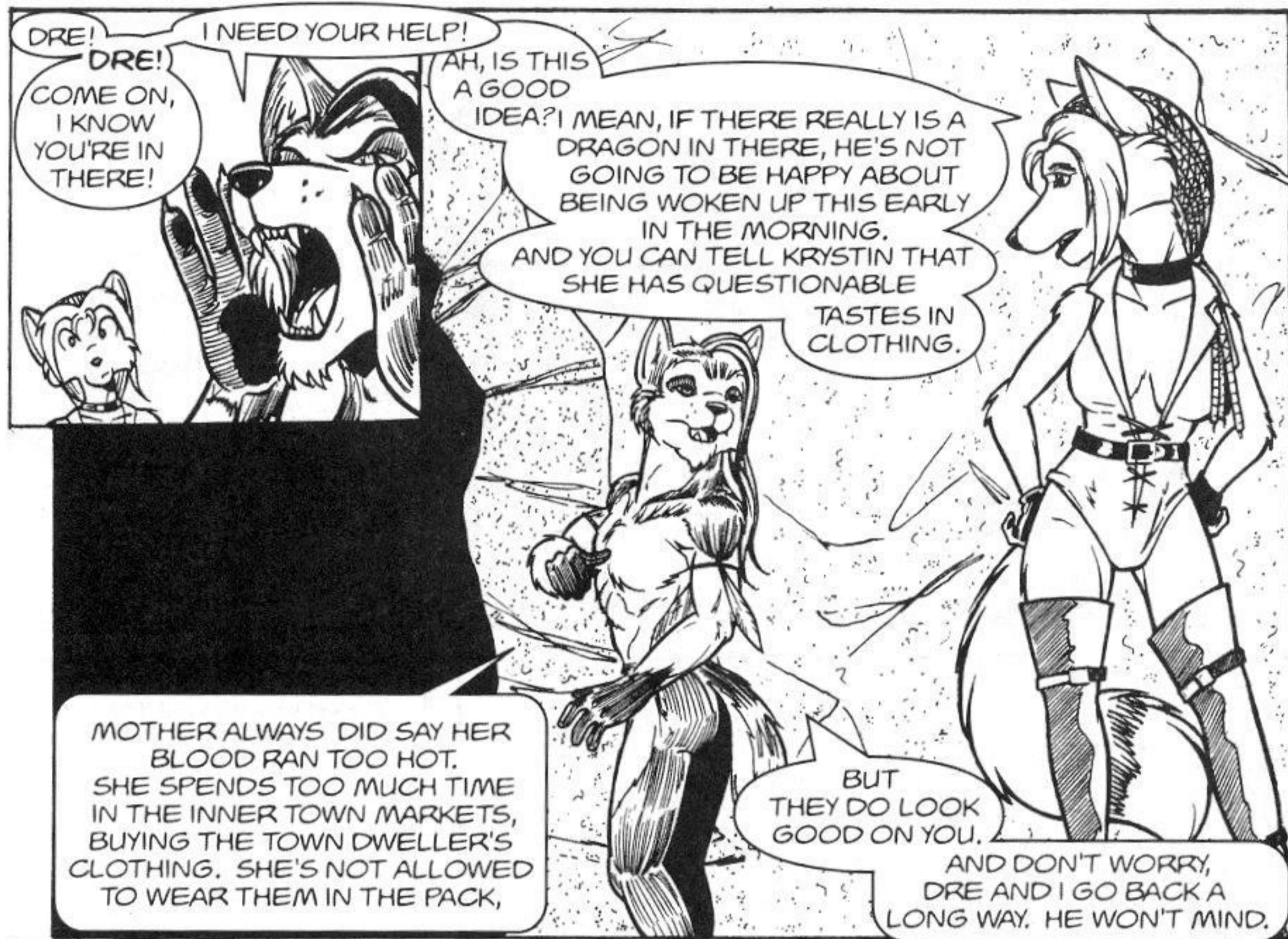
FOOL!

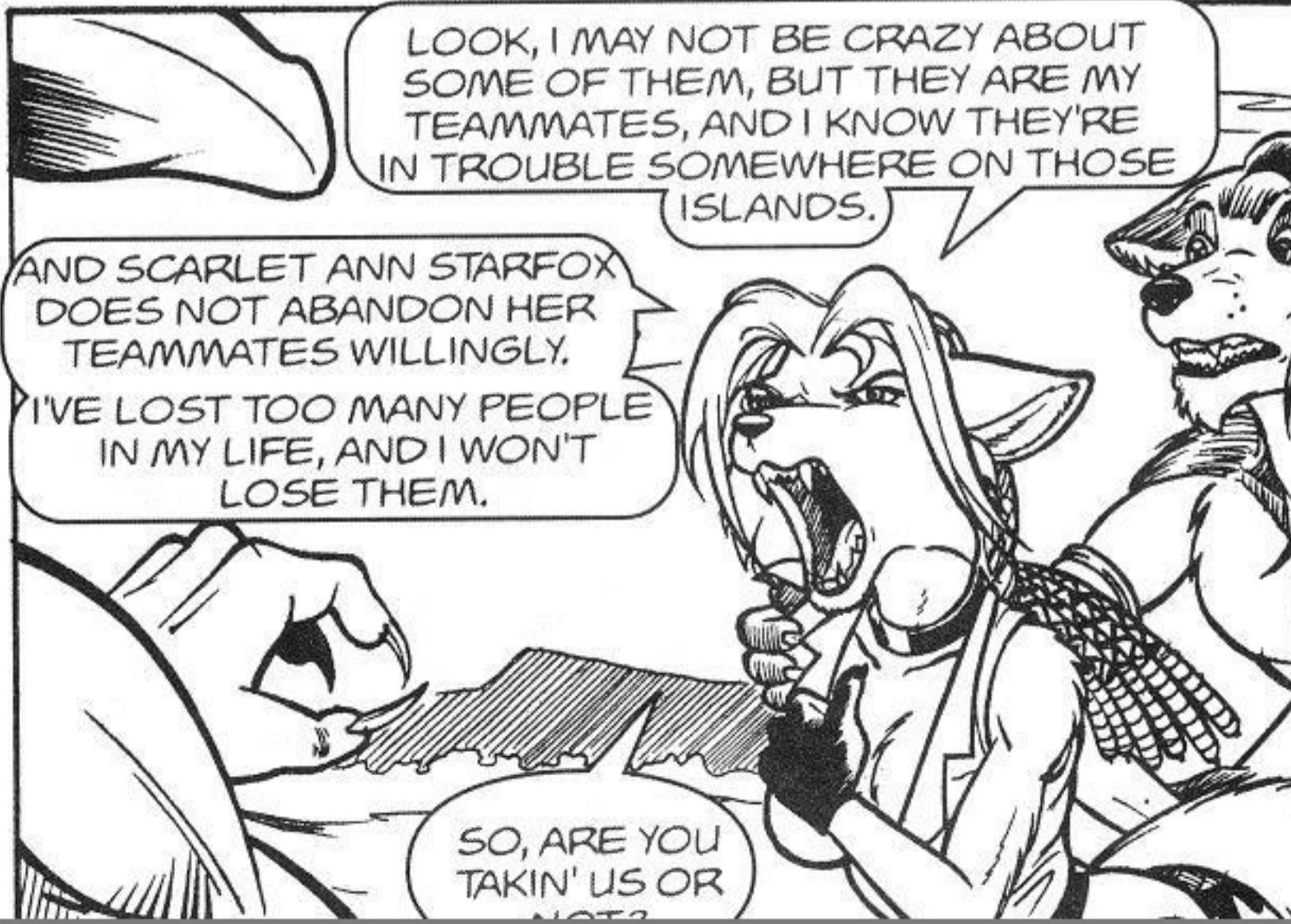
I CAN'T LET YOU  
DO THIS UMNUS!

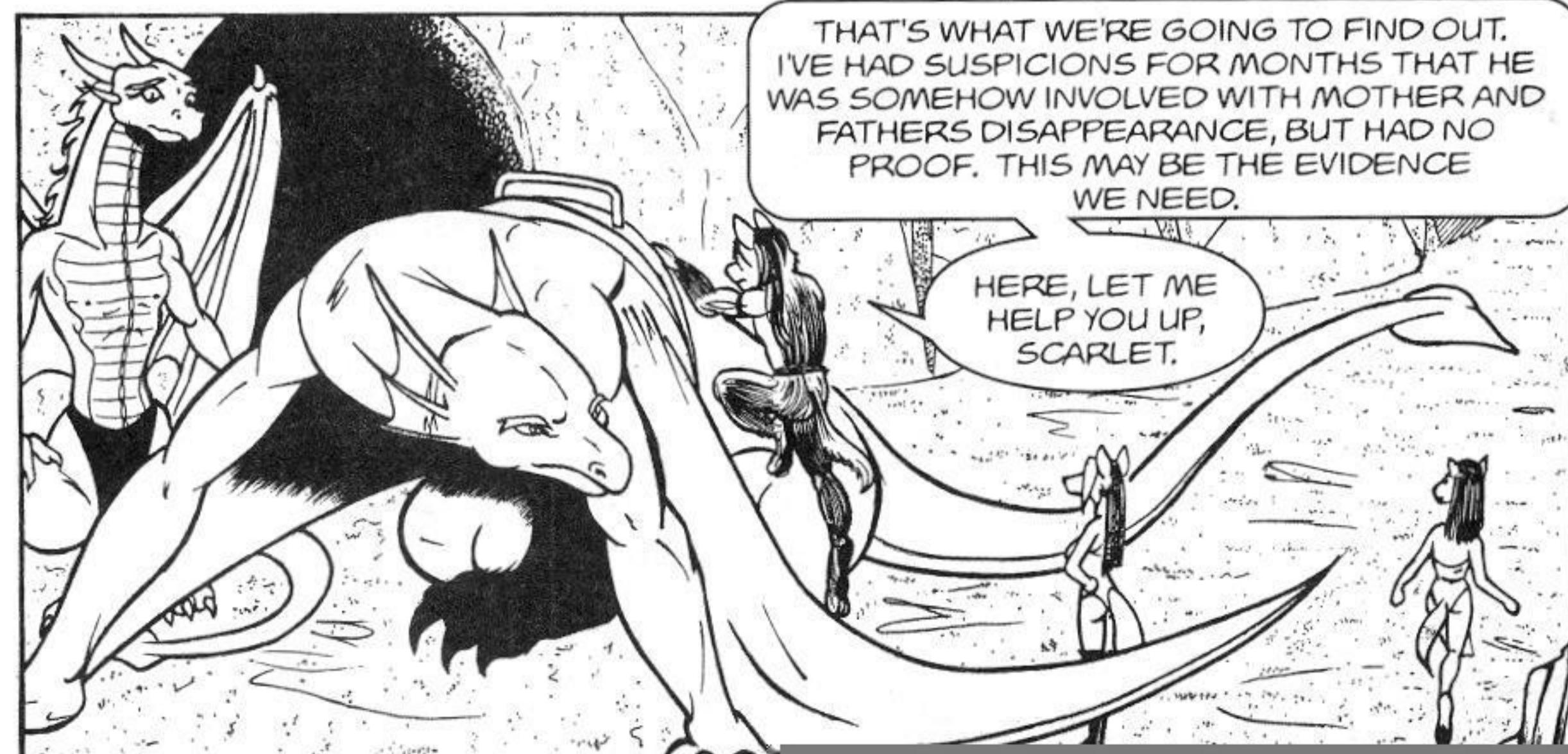
SHAMUS? WHAT  
ARE YOU ...



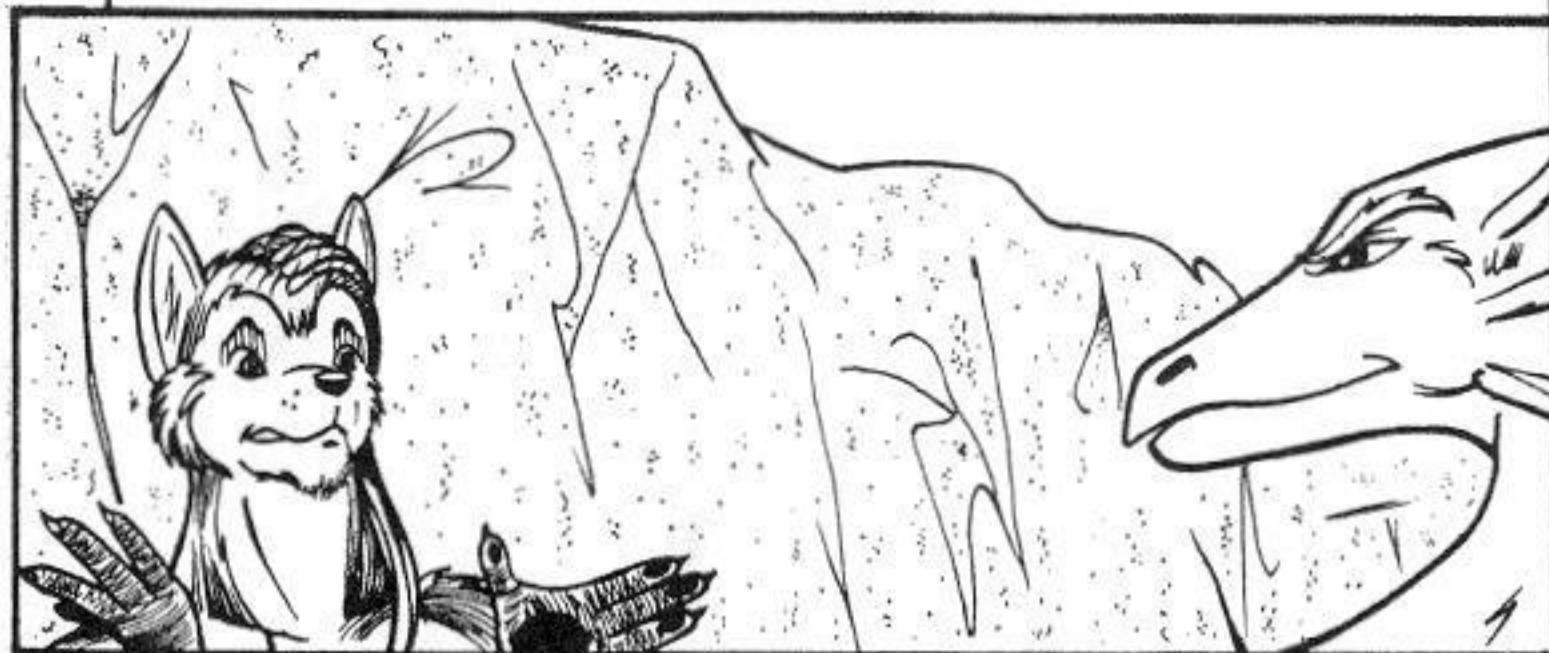




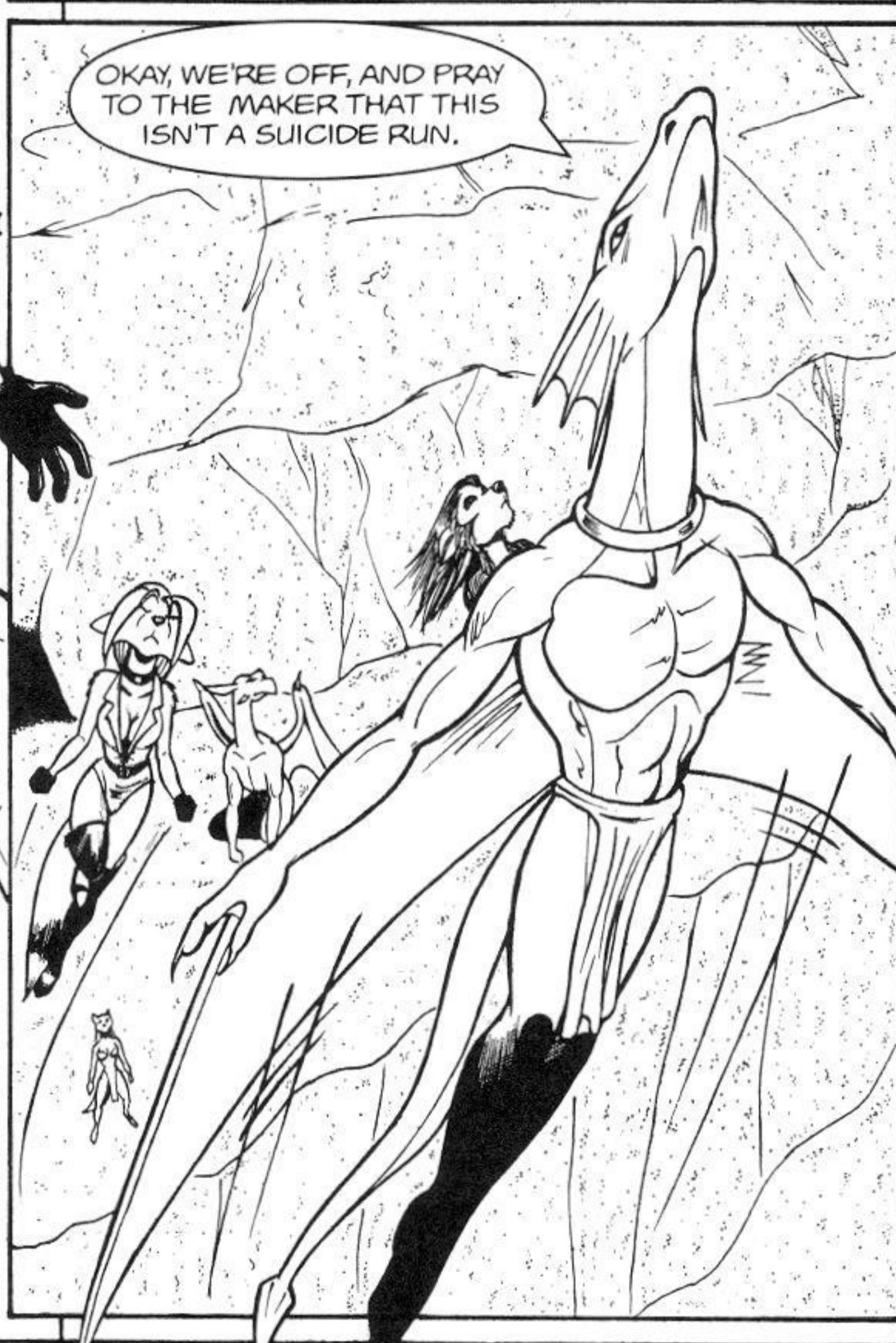




THAT'S OKAY.  
I CAN PROVIDE MY  
OWN TRANSPORTATION.  
JUST LEAD THE  
WAY.



OKAY, WE'RE OFF, AND PRAY  
TO THE MAKER THAT THIS  
ISN'T A SUICIDE RUN.



ARE WE THERE  
YET?



WE'RE JUST ABOUT THERE, MY YOUNG FRIEND. THE ONE I TAKE YOU TO KNOWS MUCH ABOUT THE GARDEN AND OUR FOE.

IN TRUTH, YOUR COMING TO THIS LAND WAS FORETOLD, THOUGH I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT UNTIL I SAW YOU ALL FALL FROM THE SKY

PROPHET, I HAVE BROUGHT THEM AS YOU ASKED.

AH, YES.  
SO THE VISIONS HAVE COME TRUE. COME IN, COME IN,

WE ARE IN NEED OF YOUR ASSISTANCE. OUR COMRADE HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED BY AN AVIAN NAMED XENIF.

AH, AND YOU SEEK TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO DEFEAT THE DARK STAR CHILD, YES?

"I KNOW OF THE ONE YOU SPEAK OF, AND THE ONE YOU SEEK TO RESCUE. THEY ARE BOTH ONE HALF OF THE SAME COIN, THIS XENIF AND THE FEMALE AVIAN PHENIX!"

"DO NOT BE SURPRISED. MINE IS THE GIFT OF PROPHECY, YOU'RE COMING WAS FORESEEN MANY CYCLES AGO. MY KNOWLEDGE OF THESE TWO PARTICULAR PHOENIXES IS VERY EXTENSIVE."

"LISTEN AND I WILL TELL YOU THEIR TALE."



PHOENIXES ARE SEMI-IMMORTALS.

WHILE THEY CAN DIE, THEY ARE REBORN ANEW, EXCEPT WITH A NEW BODY AND PERSONALITY.

THE MEMORIES OF ITS PREDECESSOR ARE PASSED ONTO THE NEWBORN HATCHLING.

"HOWEVER, ONE PHOENIX, BY THE NAME OF PHIONIX, DID NOT HEED THE WARNING OF HIS ANCESTORS AND FELL IN LOVE WITH A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG FEMALE AVIAN NAMED PHELIA.

"THEIR'S WAS A LOVE OF LEGEND THAT RAN DEEP AND THEY LIVED A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE TOGETHER."

THEY ARE FREE TO ROAM THE GALAXY AS THEY PLEASE, BUT OFTEN CHOOSE A PROTECTORATE TO LIVE OUT THEIR DAYS.

OFTEN THEY LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES AMONGST MORTALS PEACEFULLY, BUT THEY ARE FORBIDDEN TO FALL IN LOVE WITH ONE, FOR THEIR LIFE CYCLES WOULD FAR SURPASS THAT OF ANY MORTAL LOVER AND THE PAIN THEY'D FEEL WOULD BE GREAT.)

"BUT, AS WITH ALL MORTALS, HIS BELOVED'S LIFE WOULD SOON RUN ITS COURSE, AND THE GREAT SPIRIT

COLLECTOR CAME TO CLAIM WHAT, BY RIGHT, WAS HIS."

"PHIONIX, HEARTBROKEN, REFUSED TO ALLOW THE DEATH SEEKER TO

COLLECT HIS BELOVED'S SPIRIT."

"INSTEAD, HE CALLED UP HIS STAR BLADE AND CHALLENGED DEATH HIMSELF, REFUSING TO LET HER GO WITHOUT A FIGHT."

DEATH VERSUS  
EVER RENEWING  
LIFE

"THEIR BATTLE WAS  
THE FIERCEST EDEN  
HAD EVER SEEN.

PHIONIX FOUGHT  
NOBLY..."

"BUT ALAS, THIS  
WAS A FIGHT THAT  
NOT EVEN HE  
COULD WIN."

"PHAROBUS THIS TIME WAS VICTORIOUS  
IN HIS LONG RIVALRY WITH THE  
PHOENIX RACE AND TOOK HIS PRIZE,

LEAVING PHIONIX WITHOUT  
HIS STAR BLADE AND HEART  
BROKEN."

"BUT SOON SORROW WOULD  
TURN TO BLIND RAGE.

PHIONIX WAS CONFUSED ABOUT  
WHY HIS BELOVED HAD LEFT HIM  
ALONE.

HE ENVIED THOSE WHO COULD  
LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES WITH  
THEIR MATES, SO HE LASHED  
OUT AT THEM.

HE FELT CURSED BECAUSE  
HE WOULD BE FORCED TO  
CONTINUE LIVING WITHOUT  
HER."

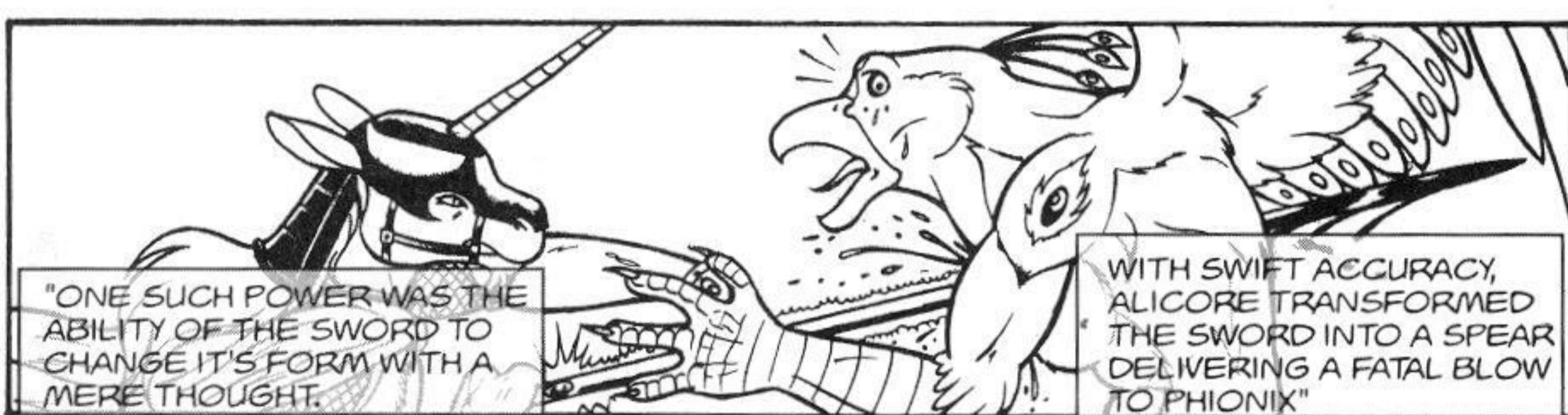
"HIS HEART GREW BLACK  
AND THE ONCE PROTECTOR  
OF LIFE, BECAME THE  
HARBRINGER OF DEATH."



"IT WAS THE UNICORN KING ALICORE WHO FOUND PHIONIX'S STAR BLADE AND BRAVED TO CHALLENGE HIM."

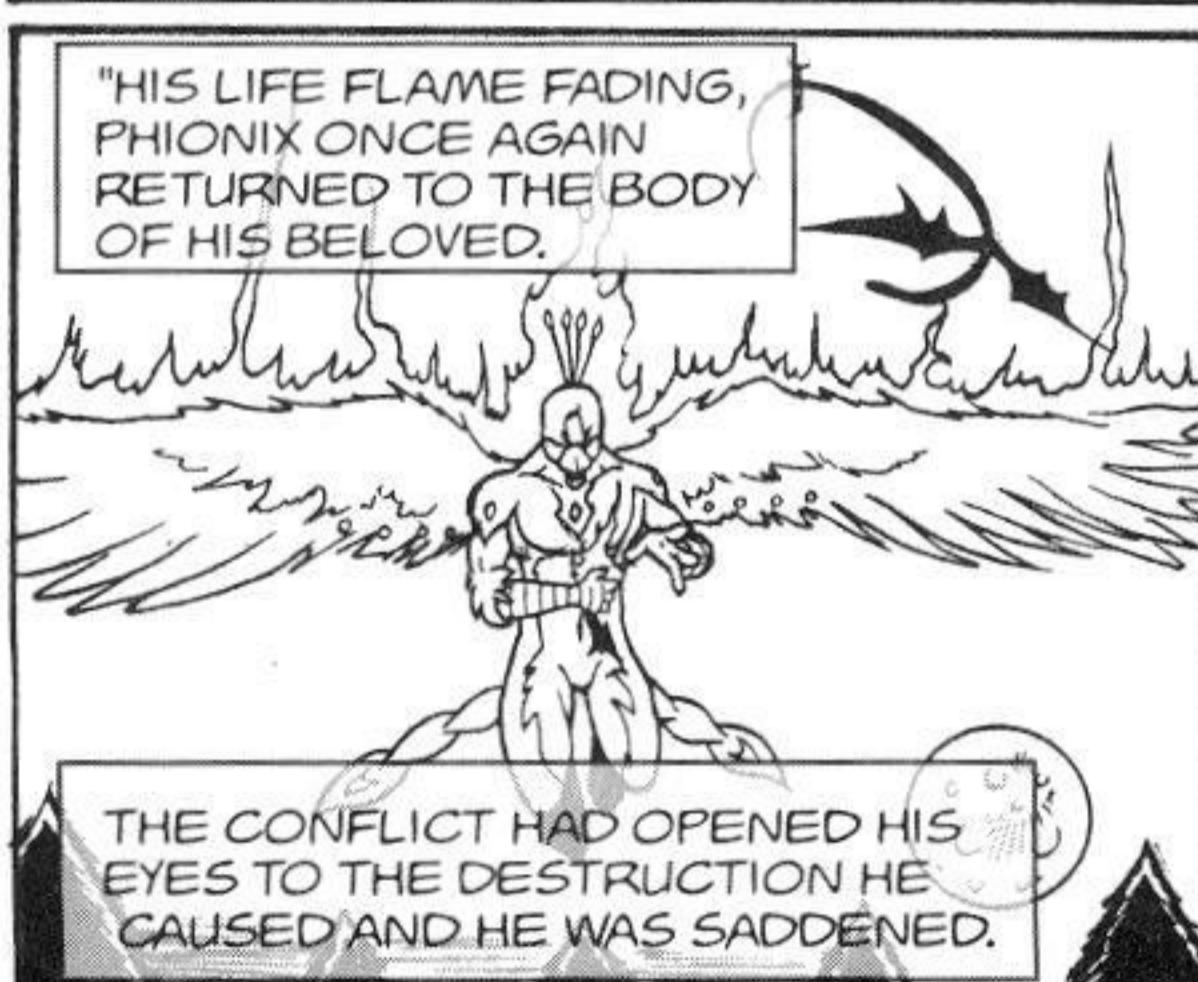


ALICORE KNEW THAT BECAUSE THE SWORD WAS ENCRUSTED WITH A PHOENIX'S SUNSTONE, THE WEAPON POSSESSED AMAZING POWERS."



"ONE SUCH POWER WAS THE ABILITY OF THE SWORD TO CHANGE IT'S FORM WITH A MERE THOUGHT."

WITH SWIFT ACCURACY, ALICORE TRANSFORMED THE SWORD INTO A SPEAR DELIVERING A FATAL BLOW TO PHIONIX"



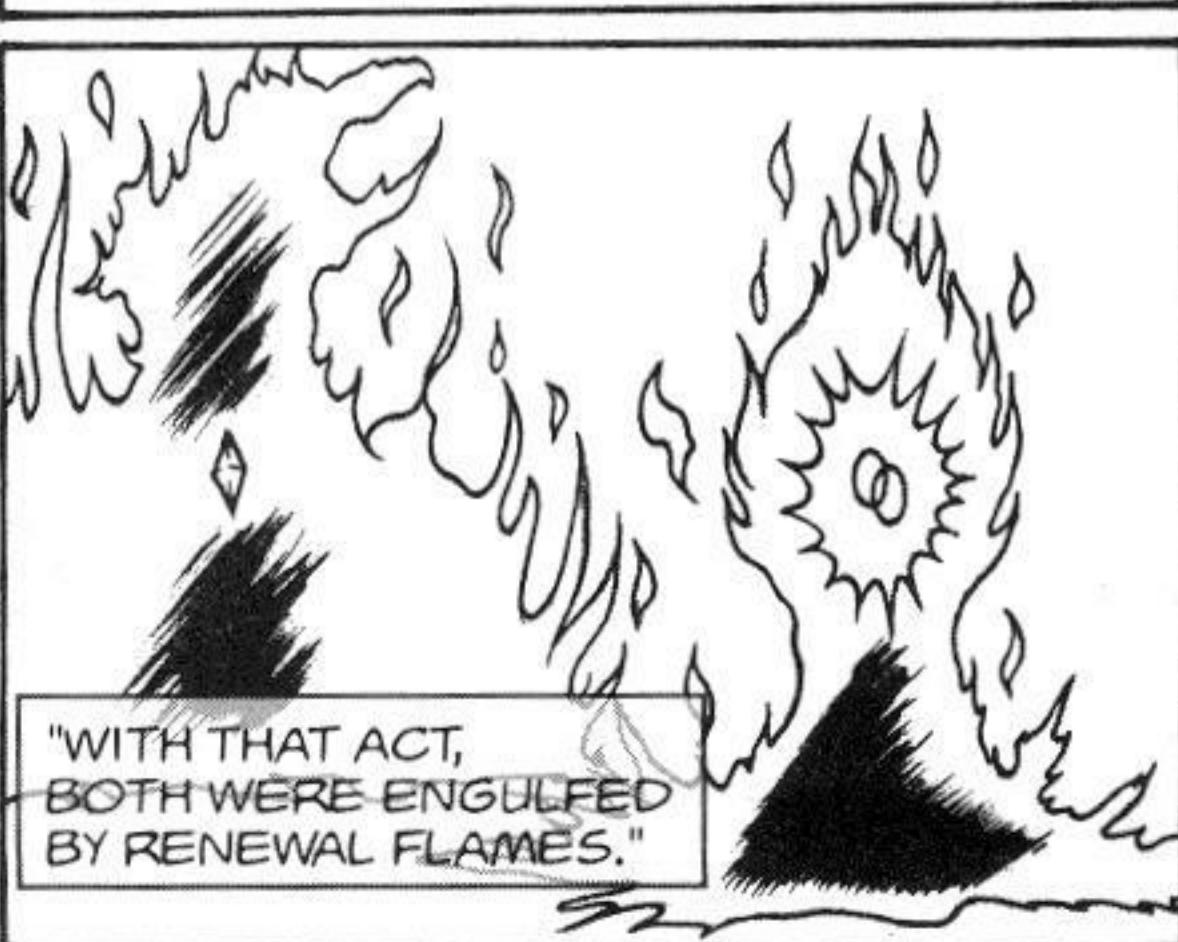
"HIS LIFE FLAME FADING, PHIONIX ONCE AGAIN RETURNED TO THE BODY OF HIS BELOVED."



"TAKING TWO OF HIS SUNSTONES FROM HIS BODY, HE DIVIDED HALF OF HIS LIFE ENERGY AND EMPOWERED THE STONES AND MERGED THEM WITH PHELIA'S BODY."



HE VOWED THAT NO PHOENIX AFTER HIM WOULD HAVE TO FACE SUCH A LONELY EXISTANCE."



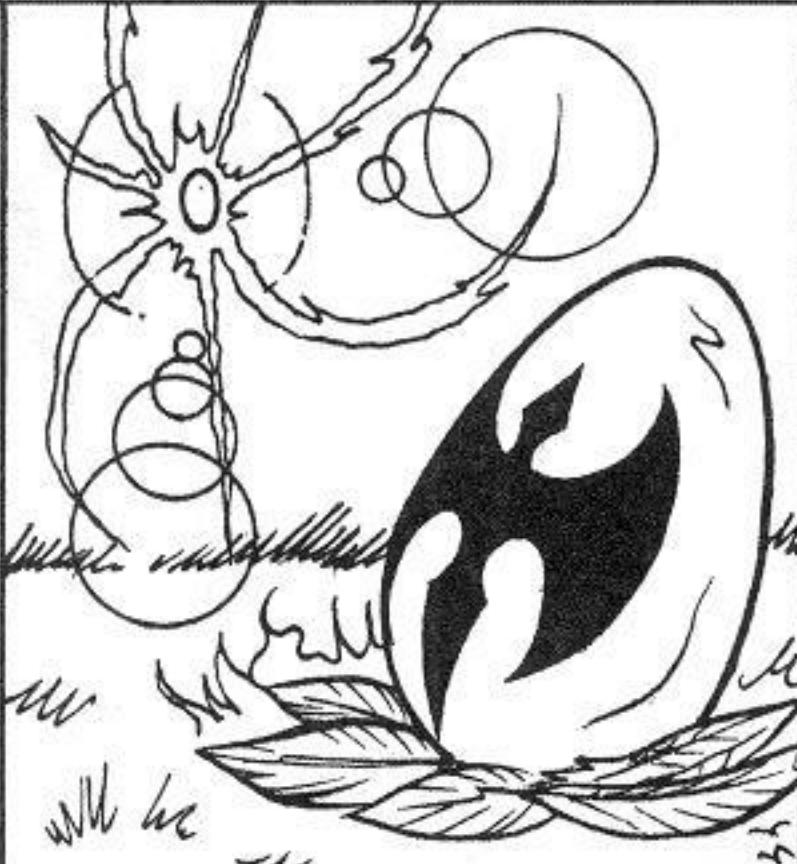
"WITH THAT ACT, BOTH WERE ENGULFED BY RENEWAL FLAMES."

"FROM THE FLAMES, TWO EGGS WERE FORMED, ONE WITH A MALE AND ONE WITH



THE FIRST FEMALE PHENIX. FOR YOU SEE, NORMALLY PHOENIXES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MALE."

"AND BECAUSE ONLY ONE PHOENIX CAN EXIST ON A PLANE OF REALITY AT ONCE, ONE DISAPPEARED TO ANOTHER DIMENSION."



"THE REMAINING EGG WAS FOUND BY A GROUP OF YOUNG JACKALOPES, MYSELF INCLUDED."



"THAT EGG WOULD HATCH TO BE PHENIX, WHOM WE RAISED. TO MY FAMILY'S SURPRISE, WE MANAGED TO LIVE MUCH LONGER THAN NORMAL JACKALOPES."

XENIF HATCHED FROM THE OTHER EGG IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE, AND IT WOULD SEEM THAT INSTINCT HAS DRIVEN HIM TO SEEK HER OUT AND UNIT WITH HER.



"YOU KNOW, THE STORY'S GREAT AND ALL, BUT HOW DOES THAT HELP US WITH OUR CURRENT PROBLEM?"



IT'S SIMPLE WALICE.  
XENIF AND PHENIX ARE LIKE TWO MAGNETS, DRAWN TO ONE ANOTHER.  
IF XENIF PAIRS WITH PHENIX, THEIR TWO HALVES OF THE PHOENIX ESSENCE WILL BECOME WHOLE.



PROPHET, WE HAVE TO REACH HER. IF THEY UNITE WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET THEM BACK.

YOU MAY TAKE MY SKYRAYS.

TAKE CARE, YOUNG ONES.

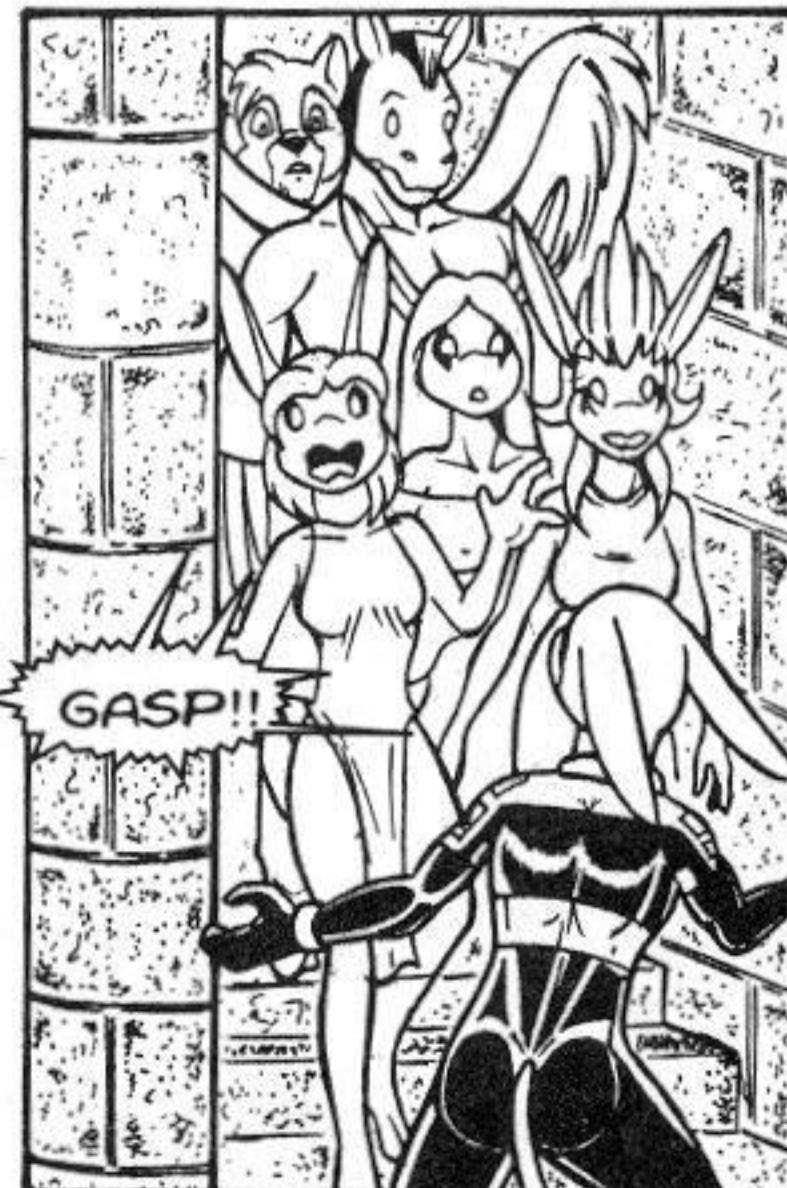
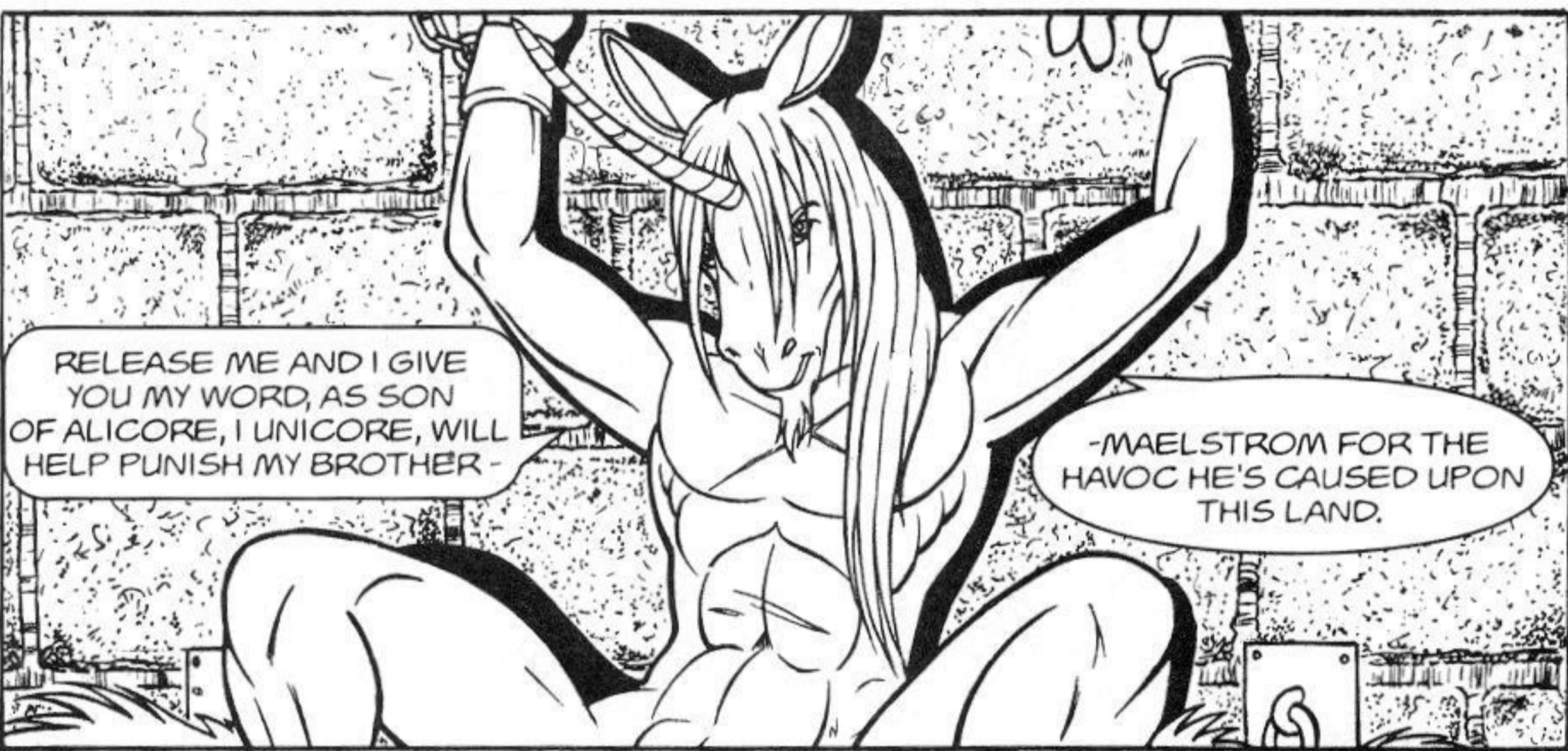
THE SUN WILL SOON SET, AND THAT WILL BE YOUR ADVANTAGE, SINCE A PHOENIX'S STRENGTH IS GAINED FROM THE SUN.

DO YOU THINK THEY WILL SUCCEED?

PERHAPS, THEY MAY RESCUE MY DAUGHTER, BUT NOT ALL OF THEM WILL COME FROM THIS BATTLE WHOLE.







THEY'RE FREE!

OK, QUICKLY, BEFORE ANY GUARDS RETURN TO...

LIEUTENANT, KILL THEM!

WE WOULD HAVE WORDS WITH YOU, SON.

LORD UNICORE!

I THOUGHT...

DROP THE SPEAR SOLDIER.

OOH, THIS IS AMAZING. I'VE NEVER FELT SUCH POWER IN MY HANDS BEFORE.

IT CHANGES SHAPE WITH NOTHING BUT A THOUGHT.

YES, AND WITH IT, WE'LL KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STROKE.

AND TOGETHER WE'LL RULE THIS REALM.

YES, MY STALLION.

WHAT? THE CASTLE IS SHAKING!

THAT CRY! IT'S THE PHOENIXES!

WE'RE ALMOST THERE-- DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

HONESTLY, NO.

LAST TIME I FACED XENIF, HE KICKED THE CRAP OUTTA ME AND MY GROUP. I'M HOPING THAT WE CAN FIND WARFARE AND HE CAN COME UP WITH A PLAN. HE'S GOOD AT THAT, EVEN IF HE IS CREEPY.

WHAT'S WITH THE LIGHTS?

IT'S PHENIX'S POWER EFFECT,

SHE'S IN TROUBLE!

YOU'VE DONE YOUR JOB. I'LL GO IN ALONE.

I WON'T LET YOU GO ALONE.

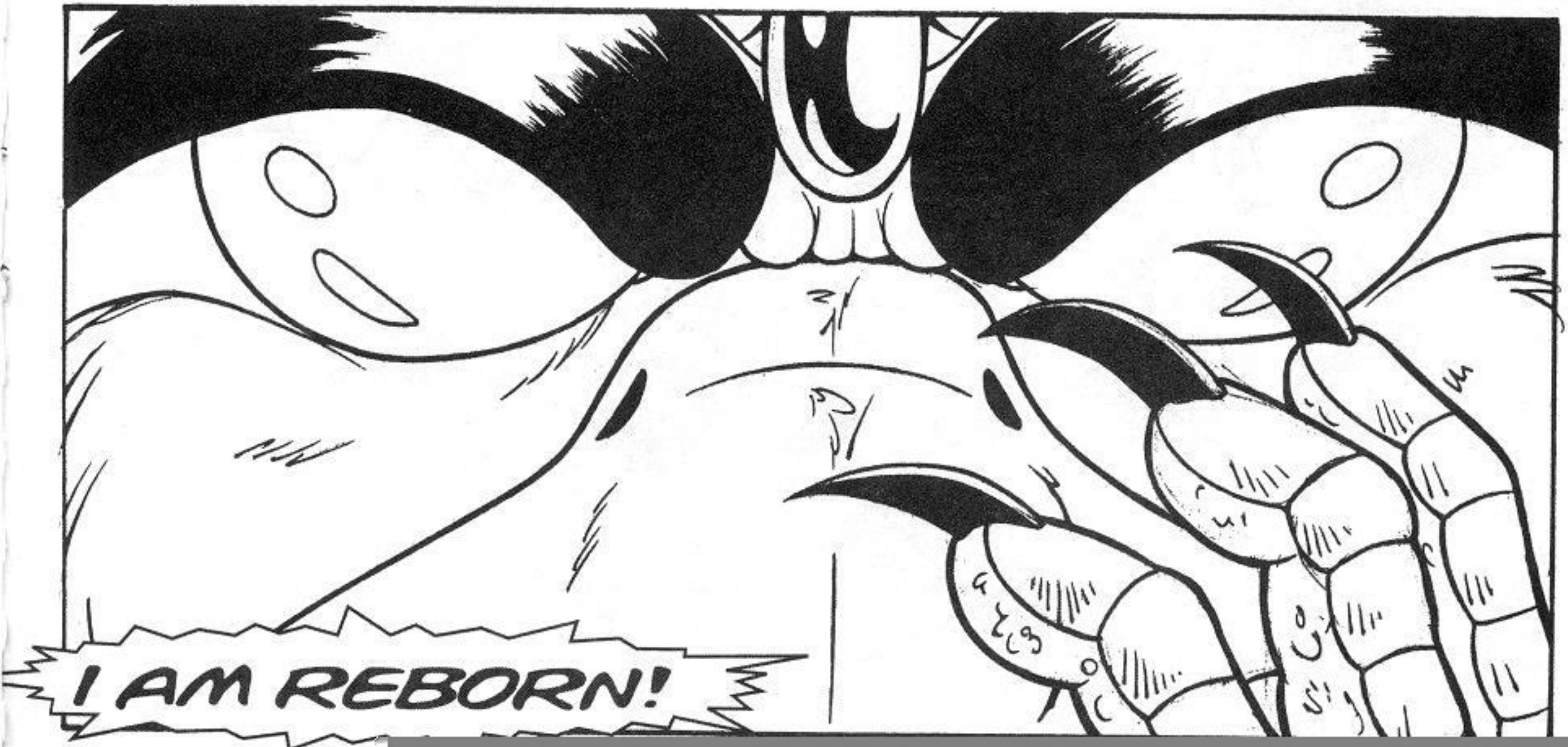
WE'VE GOT COMPANY.

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK?

SCARLET! WHAT'S THE SITUATION.

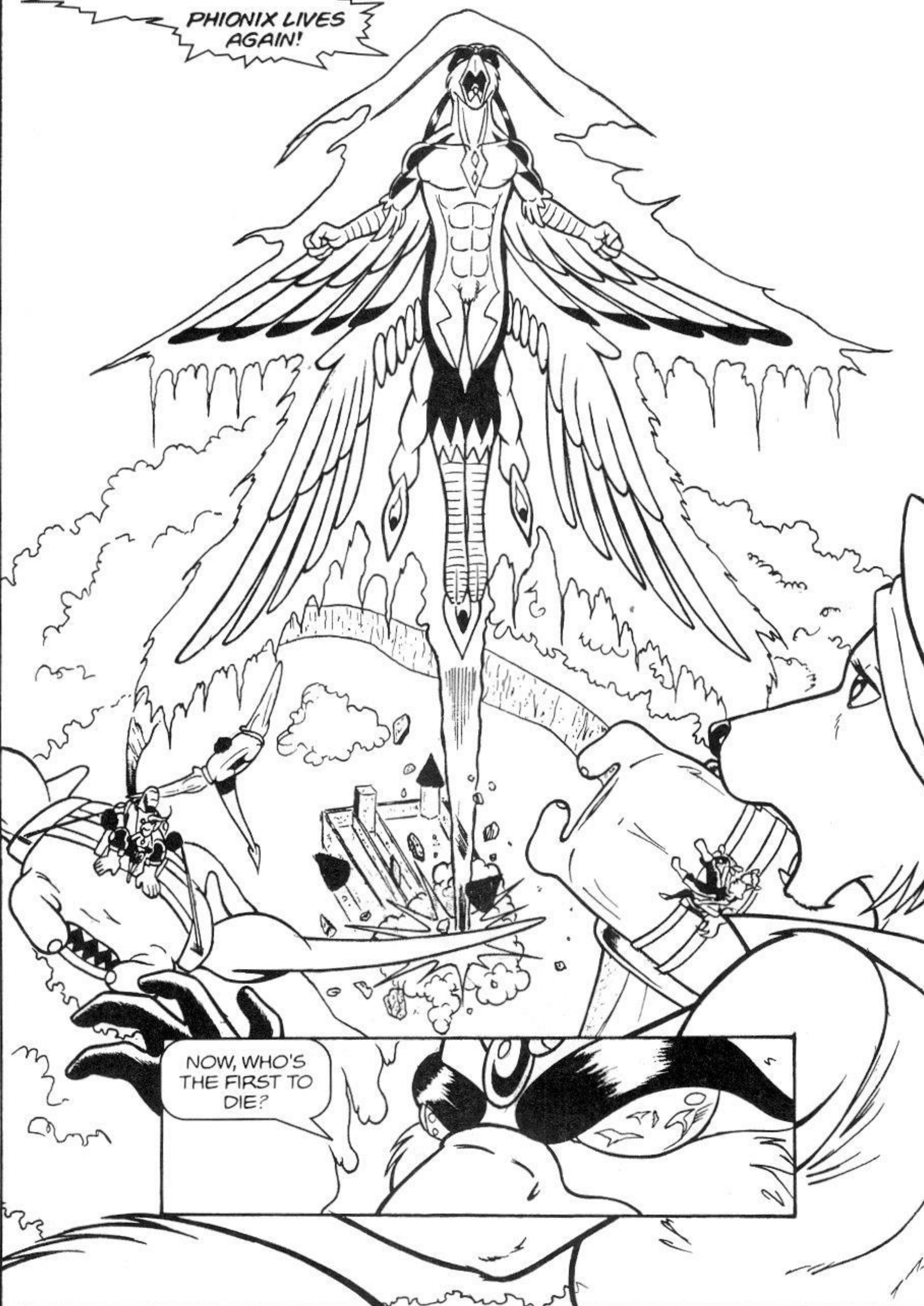
YOU GUYS MADE IT ALRIGHT! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT I THINK PHENIX'S IN TROUBLE.





SCREEECH!

PHIONIX LIVES  
AGAIN!





NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO

HEY

YOU'RE A GIRL!

DUH!  
TAKE A PICTURE, IT'LL  
LAST LONGER, AND WATCH  
WHERE YOU'RE PUTTIN' YOUR  
PAWS, CHEESER!



# **Missing Page**

**If you have this page please contact me below:**  
**[uwu@petlover.com](mailto:uwu@petlover.com)**

DID YOU GET ALL THAT, FIREFOX?

SIR, YES SIR...

STILL WITH THAT TONE, EH, CAPTAIN?

YES SIR...

HERE, ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE MISSION IS IN THIS FOLDER. CAPTAIN...

ALRIGHT FOXES, HOP TO!!!

SO WHAT'S YOUR ROLE IN ALL THIS, CAPTAIN?

MY ROLE IS TO KEEP YOU ALL IN LINE, LITTLE CAPTAIN. ANYWAY, WE'RE HERE

LEMMIE INTRODUCE YOU TO...

...THE NEW SOLARFOX!

# **Missing Page**

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I KNOW ABOUT YOUR 'OTHER' MISSION, I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LEAVE OTHERS BEHIND, ESPECIALLY LOVED ONES, IT'S NEVER EASY. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I'M SORRY ABOUT THE SLAP BUT WHAT I SAID IS TRUE, WE HAVE THE ENTIRE WORLD TO THINK ABOUT RIGHT NOW.



RED? YOU OKAY?

I DON'T KNOW ARTICA, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK I'M MAKING A HUGE MISTAKE. WE SHOULDN'T BE HERE...

RED, YOU'VE LED US THROUGH A LOT THESE PAST FEW YEARS, DON'T START DOUBTING YOURSELF NOW.

I KNOW BUT STILL...

LOOK, YOU'RE NOT PERFECT AND YOU CAN'T SEE THE FUTURE, JUST DO YOUR BEST AND IT'LL ALL WORK OUT. JUST REMEMBER, I'M ALWAYS BEHIND YOU RED....WE'RE ALL BEHIND YOU.



NOW ARE WE GONNA SIT HERE, OR ARE WE GONNA BUST THIS MISSION WIDE OPEN?!

OKAY SOLARFOXES, PREPARE FOR TAKE OFF!!!

HEH, YOU GOT IT...

TO BE CONTINUED.